

AICAB SPECIAL MEETING SUMMARY MINUTES

June 9, 2016

(Subject to AICAB Approval)

Members Present: Joe Howells, Dave Albertson, Pat Owen, Lauren Kirby, Carol Paschal, Chris Frye, Elizabeth Emerick, Buzz Thome.

Call to Order and Verification of Quorum: The Meeting was called to order by Chairman Howells at approximately 6:30P.M. The roll was called and a quorum was confirmed. The pledge of Allegiance was observed.

ADOPTION OF AGENDA: Approved as written.

Purpose for Special Meeting. The meeting was devoted discussing the proposed 6% ferry fare increase..

Approval of Prior Meeting Minutes: It was moved, seconded and unanimously agreed to approve the minutes of the May 10, 2016, as written.

Move to Committee of the Whole:

Issues raised and questions to be asked

- Assume the 6% raise in 2017 is only for 2017 and won't be raised again in 2018, but this needs to be clarified. 6% all at once will negate the good will derived from adding the extra runs.
- This raise, as with other 3% raises each of the past 3 years exceeds inflation, (average 1.7% over the past 5 years). Why?
- Can't find anywhere that states what the target for the fare box recovery should be. AICAB has never addressed the specific target. It only recommended using a 5 year average.
- Whatcom and Skagit County have a policy that states if there is an excess over the Fare Box Recovery percentage, it gets set aside and applied to future shortfalls before there is a fare increase. We have no way of knowing if revenue exceeds or falls short of the target. We also need a similar policy that directs where excess revenue, if any should be applied.
- There are inconsistencies and a lack of transparency in many of the budget/financial documents we've been given. For example, the WTS suggests a 2.5% increase in fares. AICAB will ask the county for a line item breakdown for the past 5 years, including how expenditures and revenue break down between the ferry and airport. Doug Richardson will be alerted that the request will be made, and the letter will be sent to Deb Wallace. The letter will state that if we don't get the data through the normal channels, we'll ask for it through the Public Disclosure Act.

- We should preface our request with stating we want to be supportive of the County's decisions, but need factual, thorough information to do so.
- A special committee comprised of Buzz, Chris and Carol will analyze the information received from the County before AICAB addresses the issue again.

Adjourn from the Committee of the Whole

The Quarterly meeting in July will address alternatives to bulkheads, leash laws and the Shoreline Master Plan.

A special meeting dealing with the fare increase will be called when research has been completed.

Sr. Citizen Motorcycle Fare Discount: Having a discount falls in line with the State, but singling out this discount from other potential discounts not offered in Pierce County was an issue for AICAB. It was moved and seconded to remain neutral, and not take a position. The motion passed with 7 in favor and 1 opposed. Buzz will send a letter to Deb Wallace regarding this.

There was a request to have our name plackets also include the organization that appointed us.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:15 p.m.